Governor Jonathan Trumbull, Sr. 305th Birthday Celebration

CTSSAR compatriots joined the CTDAR and Sheldon’s Light Horse at Gov. Trumbull, Sr.’s house and the Wadsworth Stables in Lebanon to celebrate the 305th birthday of Governor Jonathan Trumbull, Sr., who was born in Lebanon on October 12th, 1710. Gov. Trumbull was the only governor from the thirteen colonies to serve as governor before, during and after the American War of Independence.

SAR New England District Vice President General Douglas Wood (NH) and CTSSAR former President Dave Perkins assisted CTSSAR President Ethan Stewart in inducting new compatriot Philip Shreffler into the CTSSAR. Later, CTDAR’s Nancy Merwin assisted Lee Gerlander and President Stewart in inducting another new compatriot, Mark Sheldon, into the CTSSAR. Both the weather and the turnout were fantastic.

The CTSSAR also joined in the CTDAR’s celebration of the 125th anniversary of the founding of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution as well as the dedication of a tree to remember Sept. 11, 2001.
CTSSAR’s Connecticut Line, Sheldon’s 2nd Light Dragoons, CTDAR, NE District VPG Doug Wood, President Stewart and Others Gathered in Front of Governor Trumbull’s House, Lebanon, CT, Saturday, October 10, 2015

Photo taken by Alice Ridgeway, CTDAR Vice Regent

CTDAR’s 9-11 Tree Dedication
Lee Gerlander Inducts Mark Sheldon as President Stewart
CTDAR’s Nancy Merwin and CTSSAR’s CT Line Witness

Photos by Barbara Stewart, CTDAR and Richard Kendall, CTSSAR
Todd Gerlander Honored in CTSSAR Connecticut Line’s Change of Command Ceremony at CTSSAR’s Trumbull War Office

Todd Gerlander was honored for his outstanding, long-time service to the CTSSAR as colonel and commander of the Connecticut Line, CTSSAR’s color guard and living history/reenactment unit, with NSSAR’s prestigious von Steuben Medal. Presented to Mr. Gerlander by VPG-New England District Doug Wood, this medal recognizes compatriots with sustained, exemplary service in a color guard unit.

Dave Perkins succeeded Mr. Gerlander as colonel and commander of the Connecticut Line. Members of that unit presented arms as both Gerlander and then Perkins inspected.

Photos by Barbara Stewart, CTDAR and Richard Kendall, CTSSAR
General Oliver Wolcott was captured by British and Loyalist troops when they raided the Hurd House in Woodbury, Connecticut. Fortunately, the American patriot forces rallied and they were able to rescue the general and save the town. The General, Oliver Wolcott Sr., is a Congressman and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He will go on to become the 19th Governor of Connecticut and be the second of three generations of Wolcotts to serve as the Governor of Connecticut.

Later that day, Joseph Bierce, an Ensign in the Connecticut Militia, had second thoughts when he learned that his visit with Dr. Dan might possibly cost him an arm and a leg. The aforementioned scenarios took place at the Hurd House in Woodbury, Connecticut during the Woodbury Colonial Fair & Muster Day on September 20th. Twenty SAR members were present, and thirteen of them participated wearing their Color Guard attire. General Oliver Wolcott was portrayed by SAR member Russ Wirtalla. Joseph Bierce was portrayed by SAR member John Lilley. Doctor Dan was portrayed by Daniel E. Nexman, R.N. Photos by CTSSAR’s Ken Buckbee.
CTSSAR and USCGA Establish the Nathan Hale Award

Submitted by Robert W. Rivard, CTSSAR Past President

The CTSSAR worked with the United States Coast Guard Academy (USCGA) to establish the Nathan Hale Award. This is a cash award given to the cadet who excels in security studies. Providing the award is a way of recognizing the USCGA as the only service academy in Connecticut and thanking them for their continuing support of the CTSSAR by having cadets work on all three CTSSAR historic properties.

Naming the award after Nathan Hale is appropriate since the USCGA is in New London, one of the two locations where he taught. The CTSSAR owns both of these schoolhouses. Presenting the award to a cadet who excels in security studies connects to Nathan Hale’s role as a spy.

On September 26, 2015, the CTSSAR presented its first annual Nathan Hale Award at the USCGA’s Parents’ Weekend Fall Awards Ceremony. The recipient was First Class Cadet Caroline Miller. She served as an intern at the Intelligence Coordination Center this past summer and was selected as one of two cadets representing the USCGA on the Western Hemisphere Advanced Research Project.

Photo caption: From left, USCGA Superintendent Rear Admiral James Rendon, First Class Cadet Caroline Miller and Compatriot Robert Rivard
NSSAR 234th Anniversary of the Battle of Groton Heights (September 6, 1781), Fort Griswold and Colonel William Ledyard Ceremonies, September 6, 2015

Report Submitted by Todd Gerlander, Commander

22 members of the Connecticut Line participated in the NSSAR 234th Anniversary Commemoration of the Battle of Groton Heights (September 6, 1781) at both Fort Griswold Battlefield State Park and the Col. William Ledyard Cemetery in Groton, Connecticut. We placed a Connecticut SAR wreath at the Col. Ledyard Marker inside Fort Griswold, and we placed a Connecticut SAR wreath at Col. Ledyard’s grave. We also fired three musket volleys at each location. I would like to thank Compatriot Tyler Smith who helped set up/coordinate the ceremonies this year. GREAT job everyone! Three Huzzahs!

The Connecticut Line at the spot where Col. Ledyward fell, Fort Griswold, Groton, CT

Dave Perkins and the rest of the CT Line fire another powerful volley in honor of Colonel William Ledyard and the many other patriot heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice at Ft. Griswold

Commander Gerlander, distaff and compatriots line up near Colonel Ledyard’s monument

Photos submitted by Todd Gerlander
Humphreys Branch Inducts Three New Compatriots and Learns About the History of Early United States Flags

Report submitted by Ethan Stewart, Secretary, Humphreys Branch

The General David Humphreys Branch inducted three new members on September 14, 2015. The new members are (left to right) Bruce Bathrick, Robert Donahue and Donald Studley. After the ceremony each one spoke briefly about their ancestor. We also had a guest speaker Tracy O’Brian who spoke about the evolution of flags of the United States. She also brought replicas of flags from early English explorers to date.

Photo submitted by Ethan Stewart

Do you have branch news to submit?
Please submit your pictures with captions and branch news and stories to:

Damien Cregeau, Editor
The Connecticut Line
damien_cregeau@hotmail.com
cell: 203-648-1730
Connecticut’s Valley Forge Luncheon  
Saturday, November 14, 2015

Thanks to Damien Cregau’s friends and contacts in the intelligence community, Damien is pleased to have retired CIA agent Ken Daigler, M.A., History, as the speaker at the next state meeting. Buy his book and bring a guest!

In Honor of the 237th Anniversary of the Winter Encampment of the Continental Army at Camp Reading, 1778-1779, “Connecticut’s Valley Forge”, Putnam Memorial State Park, Redding., CT.

The Griswold Inn  
36 Main Street  
Essex, CT 06426

10:30 AM – All Members Meeting  
12:00 Noon – Social (Cash Bar)  
12:30 PM – Luncheon  
1:30 PM – Speaker: Historian and author Ken Daigler.

Ken wrote a terrific book on spying in the American Revolution called Spies, Patriots, and Traitors: American Intelligence in the Revolutionary War. He incorporated his experience in his 30 years of service as a CIA officer, especially in his assessment of Nathan Hale.

Menu
House Salad of Gathered Greens  
Choice of 3 entrees:  
Pan-Seared Breast of Chicken  
Baked Filet of Cod  
Slow Roast and Carved Top Sirloin of Beef  
Coffee or Hot Tea

Cost is 30.00 Per Person  
Reservations must be received by November 4, 2015

Please pay online at http://connecticutsar.org/bom-meeting  
or  
Mail check payable to Connecticut SAR to  
Daniel Benoit, 129 Rock Spring Road, Stamford, CT 06906  
with the following information.

If you are only attending the meeting, please let Dan know at danielnca@aol.com.

See directions to the Griswold Inn at www.griswoldinn.com

Name: ___________________________  
Entrée: ___________________________

Entrée: __________________________  
Amount Enclosed: ________________